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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138
Carson City, Nevada 89706

March 22, 2005

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Nevada Revised Statutes and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

The Administrator has received a complete application for renewal of a water pollution control permit #NV0021946 from the following applicant:

US Department of the Army
Hawthorne Army Depot (HWAD)
Western Area Demilitarization
Facility (WADF)
1 South Maine Avenue
Hawthorne, Nevada 89415

The applicant has applied for a permit renewal for the Hawthorne Army Depot Process Water Treatment Plant at the Western Area Demilitarization Facility (WADF) located north of Hawthorne, in Mineral County, Nevada. The facility is designed to treat explosive contaminated water produced from all of the WADF operations. The contaminated water is treated chemically and physically using a chemical feed system, a flotation clarifier system, a multi media filter, and carbon adsorption columns. Chlorine is added to inhibit bacterial growth. Ultimate disposal is to lined evaporation ponds. Extensive monitoring is required to ensure that groundwater and or surface water is not degraded. The permit will cover a five (5) year period.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS), the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, and implementing regulations, the Administrator proposes to reissue a permit to discharge, subject to certain effluent limitations and special conditions.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit issuance or request a hearing pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Code, Water Pollution Control should submit their comments or request, in writing, within thirty (30) days of newspaper publication, by April 20, 2005 either in person or by mail to:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
333 West Nye Lane
Carson City, Nevada 89706-0851

The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. All comments or objections received within thirty (30) days will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the hearing date.

If no hearing is held and the determinations of the Administrator are substantially changed from the tentative determinations, the Administrator will give public notice of the revised determinations. Additional comments and objections will be considered at that time.

The application, proposed permit, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by calling Icyl C. Mulligan of the Bureau of Water Pollution Control at (775) 687-9432. Copies of the Fact Sheet and Public Notice may be viewed or printed from the NDEP website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/admin/public.htm>.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know would be interested in this matter.